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## CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

### 24-HOUR REPORT

29 JULY 2016

#### (U) CALIFORNIA

##### (U) Los Angeles – 11 Pounds of Meth Found in Woman's Suitcase at LAX

(U) Authorities at Los Angeles International Airport (LAX) announced Wednesday that they found more than 11 pounds of methamphetamine in the lining of a woman's suitcase who had just arrived from Mexico. According to US Customs and Border Protection, the 27-year-old woman from San Ysidro was stopped and searched due to her "nervous behavior" and the odd smell emanating from her suitcase.

SOURCE: 28 July 2016, [Los Angeles Times](#)

##### (U) Sacramento—Man has Tested Positive in a Preliminary Test for the Zika Virus

(U) A 34-year-old Sacramento County man sought medical care after exhibiting Zika symptoms, prompting the doctor to report the case to the county, according to a Sacramento County Public Health Officer. The county sent an initial blood sample to the California Department of Public Health, which ran a test that produced the positive Zika result. As of 22 July, there have been 98 cases of travel-associated Zika virus in California, including two in Yolo County, and 1,657 in the United States.

SOURCE: 28 July 2016, [Sacramento Bee](#)

##### (U) San Diego—Officer Killed, Another Wounded in Shooting

(U) Two San Diego police gang-detail officers making a traffic stop late last night were shot, one mortally wounded. Police, including officers from many other agencies, searched for any other possible suspects with the aid of police dogs, a helicopter and SWAT team members. They focused for hours on the Chollas Creek open area just south of Acacia Grove. Residents were asked to stay indoors and streets were cordoned off for several blocks in all directions.

SOURCE: 28 July 2016, [San Diego Tribune](#)

#### (U) NATIONAL

##### (U) Arizona—18 Arrested in US Federal Drug Bust in Three States

(U) Tucson—The US Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), working alongside other state and federal agencies, conducted 32 simultaneous raids in Arizona, Colorado and California as part of a wider crackdown on the sale of a synthetic drug known as "spice." According to a DEA press release, a total of 600 pounds of "spice" were seized, a possible manufacturing lab was dismantled, and 18 people were arrested.

SOURCE: 28 July 2016, [EFE](#)

##### (U) Florida—Zika Cases in Florida Were Likely Spread by Mosquitoes, a First in the Continental US

(U) Miami – Four cases of Zika infection in Miami are highly likely to have been caused by infected mosquitoes, the state Department of Health said today — the first documented instance of local transmission in the continental United States. Officials believe that the area of active transmission is limited to a one-square mile area just north of downtown Miami. Miami-Dade County is one of the

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biggest ports of entry into the United States from countries where the Zika virus is circulating, and experts have long described it as one of the area's most at risk for the spread of the disease.

SOURCE: 29 July 2016, [The New York Times](#)

**(U) New York—Japan to Spend \$120 Million on Counterterrorism in Africa**

(U) New York— Japan's foreign minister says his country will spend \$120 million to strengthen counterterrorism efforts in Africa. Fumio Kishida told the UN Security Council yesterday that the Japanese monies would be used to strengthen information and data collection in Africa, improve border controls with cutting-edge technology, and improve criminal justice enforcement among other things. According to Kishida, the money will also be used for human resource development, training some 30,000 people between 2016 and 2018.

SOURCE: 28 July 2016, [ABC News](#)

**(U) Ohio—Carfentanil Emerges As New Threat in the Overdose Battle**

(U) Columbus – A drug used to sedate elephants and other large animals, and is 100 times as potent as the fentanyl already escalating the country's heroin troubles, is suspected in spates of overdoses in several states. Authorities say they've found carfentanil (kahr-FEHN'-tuh-nihl) mixed with or passed off as much weaker heroin. An Ohio man suspected of selling carfentanil as heroin was indicted this week on charges including murder in connection with 10 overdoses, including one death. Investigators are still trying to track down the source.

SOURCE: 28 July 2016, [US News & World Report](#)

**(U) INTERNATIONAL**

**(U) El Salvador—Authorities Conduct Raids Against MS-13**

(U) San Salvador—Authorities in El Salvador have announced a series of raids against one of the country's most powerful street gangs, the Mara Salvatrucha (MS-13). According to the El Salvadoran Attorney General, five leaders of the MS-13 gang have been arrested. Police detained 120 people in total and seized weapons, money, drugs and other assets. El Salvador has been plagued by gang violence and has one of the highest murder rates in the world, and many of the deaths have been caused by the rivalry between the MS-13 and another gang, the Barrio 18.

SOURCE: 28 July 2016, [BBC](#)

**(U) Mexico—Homicide Rates in Mexico on the Rise**

(U) Mexico City—After several years of declines, Mexico's homicide rate has started to rise, with the total body count for the first half of 2016 the highest since 2012. It has been observed that the rise in homicides seems likely related to the fragmentation of major criminal organizations that once operated in the country. The high rates of killings recorded in the last two years are thought to be related to the bloody fight over Ciudad Juarez, contested by "El Chapo" Guzmán's Sinaloa cartel and the Juarez cartel, which resulted in about eight homicides a day on average.

SOURCE: 28 July 2016, [Business Insider](#)

**(U) Syria—Al-Nusra Front Leader Announces Split from Al-Qa'ida**

(U) Syria— Syrian jihadist group Jabhat al-Nusra, also known as the Nusra Front, has announced it has split from al-Qa'ida. Leader Abu Mohammed al-Jolani, in his first recorded message, said its new name would be Jabhat Fateh al-Sham (Front for the Conquest of Syria/the Levant). While observers suggest this move is administrative, White House spokesman Josh Earnest said the US has increasing concerns that the group, ranging in number from 5,000 to 10,000, intends to attack the West.

SOURCE: 28 July 2016, [BBC](#)

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